unaffected by the franking transaction and a second subset which is subject to change during franking and the output providing first and second parts. Claim 20 recites first and second symbols with the first being at least partially unaffected by franking and at least part of the second being affected. Claim 26 recites first data being a function of second data and generating the indicium when an actual version matches a predicted version. Claim 34 recites an authenticating code with selected computations being performed before a request for generating an indicium is received. Claim 40 recites two printheads separated by a gap.

Applicants continue to assert that In re Lowry 32 USPQ2d 1031, 1034 requires only a physical organization of the information. This is exactly what is presently claimed as pointed out above. Thus, all claims conform to 37 CFR 1.75(c). Further since there is no disclosure or suggestion of the presently claimed ordering in Whitney or Herbert, all claims are not anticipated or rendered obvious over these references.

In addition, added claims 90, 91, 93, 94, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 102, 103, 105, and 106 all recite the mailpiece ("medium" in claim 106). Thus there is a functional relationship between the printed matter and the substrate. For this additional reason, these claims are patentable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of $324 is enclosed on account of the additional claim fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dec 17, 2002
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 12/17/02

Signature: Carolina Rodriguez
Person Making Deposit

Marked Up Claim(s)

1. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for processing a plurality of postal data elements, a first one of the plurality of postal data elements being a function of at least a second one of the plurality of postal data elements, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for arranging the plurality of postal data elements in an order where the second postal data element precedes the first postal data element;

an output for providing a representation representing the plurality of postal data elements in the arranged order[; and

a printer for printing said representation upon a medium].

7. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for processing a plurality of postal data elements, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for arranging the plurality of postal data elements in an order such that each postal data element preceding a second postal data element is independent of the second postal data element;

an output for providing a representation representing the plurality of postal data elements in the arranged order[; and

a printer for printing said representation upon a medium].

13. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for conducting a postage franking transaction to generate a representation representing data, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for identifying a first subset of the data which is unaffected by the postage franking transaction and a second subset of the data which is subject to change during the postage franking transaction;

an output for providing a representation representing the first subset of the data and the second subset of the data, the representation being partitioned into a first part and a second part thereof, the first subset of the data and the second subset of the data being represented by the first part and the second part, respectively [; and

a printer for printing said representation upon a medium].

20. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for conducting postage franking transaction, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for processing a plurality of data elements;

an output for generating at least a first symbol and a second symbol representing the data elements, at least part of the first symbol representing a first subset of the data elements which is unaffected by the postage franking transaction, and at least part of the second symbol representing a second subset of the data elements which is

subject to change during the postage franking transaction [; and

a printer for printing said symbols upon a medium].

26. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for generating a postage indicium based on at least first data, the first data being a function of second data, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for determining at least one candidate for the first data based on a predicted version of the second data;

a comparator for comparing an actual version of the second data with the predicted version thereof;

an output for generating the postage indicium based on the candidate for the first data when the actual version matches the predicted version[; and

a printer for printing said indicium upon a medium].

34. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for creating a postage indicium representing a plurality of data elements, and at least one code for authenticating selected ones of the data elements, the apparatus comprising:

an interface for receiving a request for creating the postage indicium;

a processor for performing computations to generated the code, selected ones of the computations being performed before

the request is received, the code being generated based on results of the selected computations after the request is received[; and

a printer for printing said code upon a medium].